

From: [Rebecca Messinger](#)
To: [Oliver Orjiako](#); [Jordan Boege](#); [Cnty 2025 Comp Plan](#)
Subject: FW: ; Portland faces a 100 billion dollar budget shortfall
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 9:19:08 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.emz](#)
[image008.png](#)

Please see the below comments from CCCU. Thank you.

Rebecca

From: Kathleen Otto <Kathleen.Otto@clark.wa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 4:24 PM
To: Rebecca Messinger <Rebecca.Messinger@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: FW: ; Portland faces a 100 billion dollar budget shortfall



Kathleen Otto
County Manager

564.397.2458



From: Clark County Citizens United, Inc. <cccuinc@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 3:44 PM
To: Michelle Belkot <Michelle.Belkot@clark.wa.gov>; Glen Yung <Glen.Yung@clark.wa.gov>; Matt Little <Matt.Little@clark.wa.gov>; Wil Fuentes <Wil.Fuentes@clark.wa.gov>; Sue Marshall <Sue.Marshall@clark.wa.gov>; Kathleen Otto <Kathleen.Otto@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: ; Portland faces a 100 billion dollar budget shortfall

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Clark County Council

P.O. Box 5000
Vancouver, Washington 98666

FOR THE PUBLIC RECORD

February 24, 2025

Re; Portland faces a 100 billion dollar budget shortfall

Dear Councilors,

Clark County Citizens United, Inc. urges Clark County to divorce itself from Portland, Oregon and strike out on its own. We all saw this coming when they adopted urban growth boundaries and locked up the economy in rural areas, with their land use policies. It decided to be "king on the mountain", but it didn't, and doesn't work that way. The state of Oregon needs all its communities to be robust, to assure an economically vibrant state.

Unfortunately, Washington state followed its land use lead, and now it is financially suffering also. People are moving out of Portland and into Clark County, but it won't be long before they will be going outside this county for even better economic odds. Where is Clark County going to house those folks with higher incomes coming to live in our communities? There has been far too much focus on low income subsidized housing and not enough focus on affordable homes for working class people.

The Growth Management Act, pushed through by Busse Nutley, Betty Sue Morris, Maria Cantwell, Jay Insley, Joe King and others in the legislature, is poor planning at its best. People do not want to live in apartments for the rest of their lives. We are not a socialistic country that confines its people like animals. Our citizens want choices and the freedom to chose how they live their lives. Given that freedom, they will be happy and productive members of society, and that is what Clark County needs.

Clark County's economy was booming, before the GMA, but not any more. Even so, the "bottoms up" promise, within its text, should be used by Clark County to the maximum possible, when it comes to planning for its people. Just as the county has a diverse group of citizens, there has to be the ability for those folks to use that diversity to grow and enhance the economy within their communities throughout the county.

Clark County must stop being the dumping ground and bedroom community for Portland, Oregon. Instead of using our commercial land for apartments, warehouses, and storage units, the county needs to focus on jobs, jobs and jobs. There is lots of that land in the county to create good paying jobs, and the county needs to use it.

Sincerely,

Carol Levanen, Exec. Secretary

Clark County Citizens United, Inc.
P.O. Box 2188
Battle Ground, Washington 98604

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/urban-doom-loop-portland-metro-011048686.html>

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